



**MISSOULA**

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

435 RYMAN MISSOULA, MONTANA 59802-4297

EXHIBIT 10

DATE 3-24-09

SB SB 9

March 19, 2009

Honorable Chairwoman Elsie Arntzen  
and Members of the House Local Government Committee  
Montana House of Representatives  
PO Box 200400  
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Sent via email and FAX to (406) 444-4825

Chairman Arntzen and Honorable Members of the House Local Government Committee:

Enclosed is Missoula City Council Resolution 7403 supporting Senate Bill 9 introduced by Senator Ron Erickson. The resolution was adopted with 7 ayes, 4 nays and 1 abstention.

Congress and President Bush recently approved the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) of 2008 which contains a provision requiring Amtrak to study reestablishing passenger rail service through southern Montana while maintaining the Empire Builder service along the Hi-Line.

If Montana is successful in re-establishing a southern passenger rail route, communities along the route will need to re-establish infrastructure to support the service. Montana Senate Bill 9 expands the uses of revenue bonds in Montana to include "passenger transportation systems, including passenger buses, trolleys, passenger trains and lines, light rail trains and lines, and the facilities related to those systems."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Engen".

John Engen  
Mayor

cc: Missoula Delegation  
Alec Hanson, Montana League of Cities and Towns  
Gallatin Public Affairs

## **RESOLUTION 7403**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MISSOULA CITY COUNCIL URGING SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 9 TO ALLOW FOR CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN PROJECTS FINANCED BY MUNICIPAL REVENUE BONDS, AMENDING SECTION 7-7-4402 MONTANA CODE ANNOTATED.**

**WHEREAS**, we face a dwindling supply of oil; and trains are among the most energy efficient way to move people; and

**WHEREAS**, commercial airline service to many counties and communities in Montana is inadequate and at risk of further reductions and/or ending altogether; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of climate change we need to take every possible step towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions into our endangered atmosphere; and

**WHEREAS**, Amtrak was created in 1971 from what remained of the private passenger railroads and has been starved of investment and direction by Congress and several White House administrations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Empire Builder is the number one long distance passenger train in the United States, with over ninety percent on-time performance, and is greatly needed for the citizens of Montana's Hi-Line who have limited public transportation options; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Coast Hiawatha ceased operation through southern Montana in 1979, and transportation to and from the major populations centers of southern Montana would be greatly enhanced by passenger rail service; and

**WHEREAS**, enhancing existing passenger rail lines and establishing new rail lines—like a southern Amtrak Route through Montana—will require an array of funding tools among federal, state, county, and municipal partners; and

**WHEREAS**, revenue bonds are one mechanism to fund passenger rail; and

**WHEREAS**, Montana Senate Bill 9 expands the uses of revenue bonds in Montana to include "passenger transportation systems, including passenger buses, trolleys, passenger trains and lines, light rail trains and lines, and the facilities related to those systems"; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 29, 2009, the Montana Senate passed Senate Bill 9.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Missoula City Council urges the Montana House of Representatives to pass and the Governor to sign into law Senate Bill 9, expanding the use of revenue bonds for passenger transportation systems.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

/s/ Martha L. Rehbein  
Martha L. Rehbein  
City Clerk

/s/ John Engen  
John Engen  
Mayor